

# SUSSEX CHESS

NEWS/2020



**GM Howell's  
tips for our  
future stars**

**Your top games  
from the past year**

**AROUND THE CLUBS**

**DELEGATE JULIE  
says farewell**

**Horsham club legend's six decades of service**



WELCOME to this year's - slightly reduced in scale - Sussex Chess News. Thank you to all those contributors who made this happen - especially given the extraordinary times we live in and the truncated nature of this year's chess season. My thanks also to John Hargreaves for proofreading this edition. Here's hoping for a return to serious over-the-board chess as soon as it becomes practical and safe to do so.

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EDITOR: MICK PLUMB

# Open team does the county really proud

Paul Batchelor  
applauds  
some notable  
individual  
performances

OUR first fixture was away to Surrey's Open team. As a carer, I was obliged not to leave Brighton for any prolonged period. Hence, I was unable to travel to this away fixture (my mother had been diagnosed with a brain tumour in August).

James Wheeler kindly offered to stand in as skipper for this match. Surrey put out a strong side, although we pushed them close with a very creditable 7-9 performance.

There were five Sussex winning players in this match. They were Mark Broom, James Mansson, Howard Tebbs, Alan Barton and Adrian Pickersgill. There were two fine draws on the bottom boards by Alan Palmer and Tim Woods, against much stronger opposition.

The next fixture was against Essex in November. We were the home side. In this match we were also to record five wins, the final score being 10-6 in our favour. Winners on the day were Luke Rutherford, Chaski Patrick, Geoffrey James, Jeffrey Boardman and myself.

Next up were Middlesex away. Again, I was unable to travel to the fixture. James Wheeler generously volunteered to take

over captain's duties for this day. Another quite tight match which went the way of our opposition. They prevailed by 9-7. Again, Sussex were to record five winners. However, the opposition were able to muster seven.

Winners for Sussex on this occasion were Jaimie Wilson, Stephen Newman, Rolandas Lukosius, Peter Farr and James Wheeler.

For the last match of the 2019-20 cycle we faced Kent. A win would have been sufficient for us to clinch third place and qualify for the national final stages. This was, however, not to be. Another close match, but we lost by 7½-8½, Sussex winners being Jaimie Wilson, Howard Tebbs and Paul Kelly.

Many thanks to Jim Wheeler for standing in as captain on two occasions. Thanks also to Dix for transporting and setting up equipment for the home matches. Another vital service.

Thus the fixtures were completed well in advance of the corona-virus outbreak and all the upheaval that followed. Sussex were placed fourth in the Sussex County Chess Union competition this season.

FINAL TABLE									
	Team	1	2	3	4	5	Points	Boards	
1	Middlesex	X	8.5	8.0	9.0	9.5	7	35.0	
2	Surrey	7.5	X	8.5	9.0	10.0	6	35.0	
3	Kent	8.0	7.5	X	8.5	12.0	5	36.0	
4	Sussex	7.0	7.0	7.5	X	10.0	2	31.5	
5	Essex	6.5	6.0	4.0	6.0	X	0	22.5	

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: OPEN TEAM

### SURREY 9 SUSSEX 7, SEPTEMBER 28 2019

1	Suarez Real, Alberto	235	1 - 0	Kwiatkowski, Feliks J	213
2	Stoyanov, Viktor	220	0 - 1	Broom, Mark	200
3	Granat, Russell G	213	1 - 0	Wilson, Jaimie	193
4	Osborne, Marcus E	206	1 - 0	Lowe, Daniel	193
5	Keane, Graham DJ	195	1 - 0	Newman, Stephen J	191
6	Lydiard, Robert G	193	0 - 1	Mansson, James C	189
7	Price, Gwilym T	198	0.5 - 0.5	Lukosius, Rolandas	187
8	Frostick, Clive A	193	1 - 0	Farr, Peter G	186
9	Oozeerally, Tariq	186	0.5 - 0.5	Higgs, Anthony RJ	180
10	Heppell, Ian N	177	0 - 1	Tebbs, Howard L	180
11	Rosen, Daniel B	171	0 - 1	Barton, R Alan	178
12	Edwards, Nicholas L	176	1 - 0	Roberts, David N	170
13	Galer, Sebastian E	176	0 - 1	Pickersgill, Adrian O	170
14	Way, Julian M	173	1 - 0	Wheeler, James M	156
15	Shepley, Julien M	171	0.5 - 0.5	Palmer, Alan H	143
16	Mellor, Jessica	156	0.5 - 0.5	Woods, Timothy J	13

### SUSSEX 10 ESSEX 6, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

1	Lalic, Bogdan	230	0.5 - 0.5	Sands, David A	201
2	Broom, Mark	200	0.5 - 0.5	Hodgson, John H	190
3	Rutherford, Luke E	204	1 - 0	Goldberg, Jeff A	186
4	Patrick, Chaski	198	1 - 0	Myall, Ivan J	180
5	Newman, Stephen J	191	0.5 - 0.5	Reynolds, D Ian W	180
6	Mansson, James C	189	0.5 - 0.5	Bui, Kyan	177
7	Farr, Peter G	186	0.5 - 0.5	Spearman, David	176
8	Tebbs, Howard L	180	0.5 - 0.5	Hampton, Christopher	177
9	Norinkeviciute, Rasa	180	0 - 1	Rix, Steven JL	175
10	Barton, R Alan	178	0.5 - 0.5	Gregory, Philip J	174
11	James, Geoffrey H	177	1 - 0	Whitton, Terry D	172
12	Boardman, Jeffrey	175	1 - 0	Marden, Larry E	170
13	Batchelor, Paul A	174	1 - 0	Hunnable, Ian D	167
14	Pavlovic, Tim	171	0.5 - 0.5	Twitchell, Neville H	166
15	Wheeler, James M	156	0.5 - 0.5	White, John A	165
16	Palmer, Alan H	143	0.5 - 0.5	Davenport, John	16

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: OPEN TEAM

### MIDDLESEX 9 SUSSEX 7, FEBRUARY 1, 2020

1	Bates, Richard A	225	0.5 - 0.5	Lalic, Bogdan	230
2	Chopra, Tamney	184	1 - 0	Kwiatkowski, Feliks J	213
3	Sagall, Roy	191	1 - 0	Broom, Mark	200
4	Spivack, Simon SY	196	0 - 1	Wilson, Jaimie	193
5	Gilfillan, Andrew	187	0.5 - 0.5	Lowe, Daniel	193
6	Coles, Steven F	185	0 - 1	Newman, Stephen J	191
7	Jain, Gautam R	182	0 - 1	Lukosius, Rolandas	187
8	Mackenzie, Colin	182	0 - 1	Farr, Peter G	186
9	Chan, Nevil	177	0.5 - 0.5	Tebbs, Howard L	180
10	Calvert, D Ian	179	1 - 0	Barton, R Alan	178
11	Covey, Jason	179	0.5 - 0.5	James, Geoffrey H	177
12	Fleming, Nigel D	177	1 - 0	Roberts, David N	170
13	Fulton, Anthony R	173	1 - 0	Pickersgill, Adrian O	170
14	Rubeck, Jonathan	171	1 - 0	Spanton, Tim R	168
15	Batchelor, Guy J	164	0 - 1	Wheeler, James M	156
16	Chopra, Manmay	154	1 - 0	Palmer, Alan H	143

### SUSSEX 7.5 KENT 8.5, FEBRUARY 15, 2020

1	Lalic, Bogdan	230	0.5 - 0.5	McDonald, Neil R	232
2	Kwiatkowski, Feliks J	213	0 - 1	Taylor, Martin R	220
3	Rutherford, Luke E	204	0 - 1	Chandler, Cliff R	208
4	Broom, Mark	200	0.5 - 0.5	Stebbins, Anthony J	213
5	Wilson, Jaimie	193	1 - 0	Hand, Freddie	205
6	Rayner, Francis	193	0 - 1	Snape, Ian L	201
7	Newman, Stephen J	191	0 - 1	Talsma, Paul A	195
8	Mansson, James C	189	0 - 1	Hanreck, Alan E	198
9	Farr, Peter G	186	0.5 - 0.5	Sugden, John N	186
10	Tebbs, Howard L	180	1 - 0	Tucker, David S	185
11	James, Geoffrey H	177	0 - 1	Ball, Laurence	186
12	Batchelor, Paul A	174	0.5 - 0.5	Bayford, Jim R	180
13	Pickersgill, Adrian O	170	0.5 - 0.5	Anstead, Jerry	172
14	Kelly, Paul J	163	1 - 0	Gluckman, Tim	169
15	Roberts, David N	170	+/-	N.N.	
16	Wheeler, James M	156	+/-	N.N.	

### The Args

**S**USSEX chess players must have been amazed at seeing The Args win match after match this season and top division 2 of the Mid-Sussex League, albeit left in limbo by the virus disaster.

The club also won two Knockout matches, although the second was conceded on handicap.

So why this sudden renaissance after we had been on the point of folding?

Well, of course, our classy top board, Peter Farr, continued to get a series of wins.

The secret was, however, the recruitment of Tim Pavlovic and Roy Page - both recalled out of retirement from Horsham (so no poaching involved!).

Having new boards 2 and 3 allowed Jim Graham and Paul Kington to play on 4 and 5. So for the first time ever The Args had strength in depth and Jim in particular had a really impressive series of wins - and no zeroes on bottom board (unheard of!).

Tim and Roy played better than the results might suggest, since Tim in particular more than once agreed draws in strong positions to get us to the vital three points.

Mick Harris, our substitute, recovering from a stroke, bravely played a couple of games.

Results including Mid-Sussex League and Knockout: Peter Farr 8/10; Tim Pavlovic 4/10; Roy Page 5/8; Jim Graham 8.5/10; Paul Kington 7/10; Mick Harris 1/2.

Our venue remains The Jolly Tanners at Staplefield with its separate chess room and excellent food and drink. We are concerned that they will be all right to continue after this disastrous world tragedy.

Of course we await the decision of the Mid-Sussex League about the future plans.

**Paul Kington**

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### Bexhill

**T**HE club's financial position improved over the last year and it is now on course to break even on a regular basis.

Towards the end of 2018 we were forced to suspend Saturday meetings owing to falling attendances and therefore income, with John Kimber and his wife, Hillary, kindly offering to host us at their home in Ninfield Road.

After a few months, numbers started to increase again and regular Saturday meetings were resumed early in 2020.

During the year we learned of the deaths of two long-standing members, Michael Dean and

Alfred Mikurenda, who will both be remembered for their great enthusiasm for chess.

In spite of his various illnesses, Michael continued until right near the end to drive around the country to tournaments. Alfred, who was over 90, was a unique character, who was not the easiest of people to play against, but at his funeral it came to light that he had had a very fraught and traumatic childhood in Poland just prior to the start of World War Two, which helped to explain his occasional apparent cantankerousness, which could, however, be relieved by great flashes of wit.

Once asked if he had driven to the club, he replied immediately: "Who do you

think I am, the Duke of Edinburgh?" Loud guffaws from members present.

We have been fortunate, however, to welcome several new players and the active membership is now 29, which may be the second highest in the last 20 years or more.

Last year was no doubt the busiest this century, The major development was our entry into the Mid-Sussex Chess League for the first time in decades. As usual with new entrants we had to play in the lowest division, the third, but our team has proved quite competitive. With three matches still to play, we have so far had two wins, one draw (against one of the strongest sides) and three losses (all three of which were by 3-2

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## AROUND THE CLUBS

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and could or even should have been wins).

Interest in this competition was shown by the fact that against the Eastbourne team we were able to field three players who had not previously appeared for the club in order to give them a taste of match play.

The result was our second win, by 3-2, and with one match outstanding we were in a position to finish in the top half of the 10-team table after three wins and one draw.

Three of our four losses were by a single point and all three of those matches could (or should) have been won. Steve Blewitt and John Kimber played particularly well on boards 1 and 2. Next season should see the club with a considerably more competitive team with the addition of two new strongish players, and the target will be promotion to Division 2. Many thanks are due to the team captain, Bill Tracey, for his efficient organisation, on top of his duties as club treasurer.

In June, Grandmaster Bogdan Lalic gave a second simultaneous display. The attendance was only about half of that for the event in 2018, perhaps because there was no novelty value. Bogdan won 25 games, drew two and lost one, against Laurence Butt of Eastbourne Chess Club, who also gained one of the draws.

Paul Lendon was instrumental in producing a first for the club in the form of

sponsorship by Tesco, which provided a good spread of food and drink.

After a lapse of several years, the club's rivalry with Hastings & St Leonards Chess Club was resumed in September and resulted in another win for us, in a closely contested rapidplay match, by 37 points to 35. This was the fifth time the club had won the Challenge Trophy out of seven encounters. Hastings captain Mason Woodhams presented the club with an urn supposedly containing "ashes" to be competed for in future contests.

The Championship was won by John Kimber for the second time, with a score of 7½ points from 9; second was Steve Blewitt with the same score, but he had lost to John in their match. Third was Alan Ticehurst with 6 from 9. The Gordon Cup, with only six contestants, was won by Mel Stockdale with 5 points from 5; second was Tony Demarco on 4 and third, Ted Baker with 2 points.

In the Major section of the Summer Rapidplay Tournament, the winner was Steve Blewitt with 12½ points from 14, and 2nd= were Bill Tracey and John Kimber with 10.

The Minor section was won by David Slidel with 10 points out of 12. Tony Demarco and Mike Lambert came 2nd= with 8 points.

The club found time to play two friendly matches against Eastbourne. The home one was tied 4-4 and the return was a loss by 4½ to 3½, but Eastbourne fielded a stronger team than in the first match. John Kimber and Bill Tracey won both their games. It's hoped to make this a regular event in between seasons.

In October, a handicap tournament was held in which John Kimber was the victor, winning all seven of his games. Second was Steve Blewitt with six points. John was presented with the recently unearthed Handicap Trophy, which was last competed for in the year 2000.

Looking forward, we are proposing to have two friendly matches in April or May against the University of the Third Age Chess Club in Battle. These will be primarily for members who have not played in league matches.

There has long been a need for new junior members (to reduce the club's average age!) and we were therefore pleased when Sebastian Merchant (aged nine) and his brother Sam (seven) joined late last year, together with their parents, who also play chess. Both boys show good promise. Sam has soon produced two great results already this year, coming seventh equal out of 87 in his section of the London Junior Chess Championships and



*'There has long been a need for new junior members'*

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## AROUND THE CLUBS

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then topping that by coming first in the 35-strong Under-7 tournament of the South of England Junior Championships. He has also beaten some of our stronger players, including our current champion!

Meetings were, of course, suspended in March because of the Covid-19 lockdown, but some of our members continued playing one another on chess.com after a Bexhill Chess Club had been set up there (it has 17 members so far). Our rivalry against Eastbourne

continued on May 24 when the first online Rapidplay match between the clubs was played. The result was a win to Bexhill, by 8 points to 6.

The relaxation of lockdown rules from July 4 led some members to propose meeting at our normal venue once a week instead of twice, but a canvass of the whole membership showed that most felt it was too early for people to face one another in an enclosed space, considering the difficulty of social distancing, the problem of the use

of equipment that could transmit the virus and the fact that members of multiple households would be involved, not to mention the vulnerability of our several septuagenarians and octogenarians. It will be interesting to see when the Mid-Sussex Chess League proposes to start the 2020/2021 season.

Next year will be the 125th anniversary of the club, which was founded in 1896, and ways of marking this milestone are being considered. **Joe Sharp**

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## Bognor & Arun

**T**HE arrival of Coronavirus has dominated the Bognor & Arun club's year and has brought an early end to 2019/20.

That wasn't early enough to interfere with Jaimie Wilson winning the club championship again. The Knockout Cup and the Summer Cup have not commenced.

As to the club's joint team activities with Chichester in the Portsmouth & District League, while incomplete, ended with the 'A' and the 'B' team both leading their respective divisions and the 'C' team second in theirs.

Our enjoyable annual Summer Saturday event held at the Seaview Hotel, East Preston, as part of the village festival, sadly had to be cancelled.

Member Jamie Wood kindly made his garden available on Saturday afternoons during August so some graded games at least could be played.



**CHAMPION AGAIN... club championship winner Jaimie Wilson, left, with chairman William Partridge**

Quite when the Bognor & Arun Club can restart is hard to guess at. Let us end hoping that a vaccine arrives soon.

**William Partridge**

### Brighton

**W**ELL, I wanted someone to write about the change in direction chess has taken under Covid-19 - the online world of lichess and [chess.com](https://www.chess.com) and the battles being fought - I asked, but no luck. I know it's been happening, but that's it.

Then I thought someone with some knowhow on the subject might write about the health implications for 'real' chess under lockdown - but again no luck.

We've discussed it remotely in Brighton and Hove and just become more despondent about playing chess at all. We've read the <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-multi-purpose-community-facilities/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-multi-purpose-community-facilities> (why they had to say it

twice I don't know - as if we weren't bored enough the first time) and gone cold.

People need to be paid to read this stuff - never mind put it into practice, although I know Hastings have taken it on.

But it's their house and we're only lodgers in the Avenue Bridge Club. We've asked if there's hope - but we don't know, and they don't know, and now things are going into retreat again and everyone's down on the beach hoping to catch something there (not chess players, I hasten to add, we're still huddled over the computer practising pre-moves).

So, we've thought about it - entry by appointment, chess boards two metres apart, combatants masked and sanitised, copying every move, and biological warfare with the sanitiser to terminate every game. Would we get used to it? Would we forget it was even strange? Or would we prefer to go mad quietly at home?

Sometimes I wish we weren't run on a volunteer shoestring so that these issues could be properly addressed. We already ask a lot of volunteers. Now it's risk assessment forms and government inspectors carrying out compliance checks.

Who's going to monitor numbers, distances, mask-wearing and constant cleansing? Who are our 'building operators' and 'facility managers' who are going to ensure that we (weapons drawn?) 'proceed with caution in venues that have been made COVID-19 secure' and where any failure is a breach of health and safety law? No wonder the Bridge Club is lying low.

To summarise, BHCC has nothing to report: no results, no events, no trips and no news. We are keeping in touch, getting married (1), having babies (1), and not dying (0). And we are missing chess and all our chess friends, locally and across Sussex.

**Sue Chadwick**

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### Eastbourne

**I**T was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of

despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us.

So begins A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens. Over 160 years after it was written, it is perhaps as true now as then, except the two towns at least for myself are Eastbourne, one of the two clubs of which I am a member, and Seaford, where I live.

Under pre-lockdown conditions in the Mid-Sussex

Chess League, Eastbourne had a team in divisions 1 and 2, and two teams in division 3. These four teams completed in total, 31 of 38 matches. Eastbourne 1 had W3 D1 L4 and finished 7/11. Eastbourne 2 had W1 D2 L5 and finished 10/11. Eastbourne 3 scored W1 D2 L4 and finished 9/10, while Eastbourne 4 finished one place below them with W1 D0 L7.

Notable performances among those playing three or more

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## AROUND THE CLUBS

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games in division 1, were from Oli Froom (3.5/6), Mick Reddie (2/3), Paul Carpenter (1.5/3) and Adrian Pickersgill (4/8). In division 2, Laurence Butt (2.5/4), and in division 3, Hugh Norris (4/6), Ian Goodyer (2.5/5) and Steve Baldwin (2/4).

I will not report on the internal competitions run at Eastbourne which involve longer sessions of three hours for the entire game and a separate competition of shorter games of 30 minutes for each player. It is a tradition that most of these are played when the Mid-Sussex League has finished, and therefore no competition has been completed this year.

In addition to formal games, Eastbourne also had a series of Friday evening talks using a projector and a laptop with Fritz. A talk on Friday, November 22, by Adrian Pickersgill, on "Catastrophes in openings with early queen sorties" was well received, and one of the games discussed is presented in the games section (Pickersgill v Hutchinson). A second talk was postponed due to the season's interruption.

Only two people played in chess congresses during the year (apologies if I am missing details of anyone's chess excursions). Rasa Norinkeviciute played in the British Chess

Championships Over 50 in July, 2019, in Torquay, and Adrian Pickersgill played in the Over 65 section in the same event.

Adrian also played in the DCCA congress in Torquay in August, and the Royal Beacon Seniors in Exmouth in November. Alas, I (Adrian Pickersgill) am missing those hotel dinners!

One repercussion from my trips to Devon, is that when the lockdown arrived, I was asked to join a new organisation on chess.com, the DCCA online club formed on March 22, 2020. This currently has 133 members, and runs several events each week. An interesting competition which is being run as I write is a 25 minute Rapidplay with a 10 second increment. I plan to run a similar event on chess.com for the benefit of "Eastbourne official chess club", which at the moment has 10 members, and was founded on April 18, 2020. In addition, Eastbourne's online organisation has played a "challenge" against Bexhill (Eastbourne's team run by Oli Froom) over seven boards at this timescale, and the final score was Bexhill 8 Eastbourne 6. A further challenge to Hastings is planned for July. Finally, an ongoing match between Battersea and Eastbourne is being played at the rate of three

days a move, and is again being run by Oli Froom.

In addition to our presence on chess.com, Eastbourne has also formed a team on lichess, "Eastbourne online chess club", which has 14 members. This mainly holds arena type contests where players begin concurrently at a prearranged time. Friday evenings have mainly seen an Eastbourne internal 10 minute rapidplay, while Thursdays have seen a competition involving different teams in Sussex. Oli Froom has organised both the internal competitions and entered Eastbourne into the team events.

So what of the future? Eastbourne Chess Club currently has 28 members and, under non-lockdown conditions, would meet on Friday evenings at 7pm-10pm at RAFA Bridge Club, 11 Wish Road, BN21 4NX. Details can be obtained from either the club secretary, Colin Clark, or club president, Doug Stevenson, on the website [www.eastbournechessclub.org.uk](http://www.eastbournechessclub.org.uk). Negotiations are ongoing to change the day we meet, but no details are currently available.

**Adrian Pickersgill, Mid-Sussex  
League first team captain**

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## East Grinstead

**A**NOTHER year passes and as always I am grateful for the support

of the elected officials and our first team captain without whom the club could not function properly.

The new season started with a move to our new home at The Bookshop in East Grinstead High

Street and my thanks must go to John Pye, the owner, who offered his premises after Age UK moved premises and could no longer accommodate us. John is a keen chess player and has also joined the

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## AROUND THE CLUBS

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club as well as undertaking to run a junior team in the Mid-Sussex League. It is hoped we will also return to chess in the high street as and when allowed by government guidelines.

The move, however, has thrown up a number of challenges, one being that due to higher visibility we have attracted several new members. It is a nice problem to have but space within the shop is limited and we do have to share it with the juniors and occasionally other members of the public.

It has therefore been decided that from September we will return to Age Uk which has now agreed we can have access to open and lock up ourselves. We must thank John for helping us out and junior chess will continue from the bookshop.

Similar to every other club, the coronavirus stopped the season prematurely so none of our internal competitions has been completed and we wait to see what Mid-Sussex decide regarding league matches.

We have only one team in the Mid-Sussex League and up



*'We now have three internal competitions'*

to March had an impressive run of wins so my thanks must go to Ian Dennis, our first team captain, together with all the other players who supported him.

We now have three internal competitions which means most club members have a chance to play each other during the season. The season has been frozen and it is planned to resume in September and eventually have trophies

awarded. Thanks go to Eric for all his efforts, which has made the club nights more challenging and enjoyable.

We are a small, friendly club which meets every Tuesday, September to April. Our new home for 2020 will be Glen Vue House, Railway approach, East Grinstead. Visiting teams will be pleased to note the new venue has ample free parking after 6pm and is within walking distance of the railway station.

Finally, I would like to thank all the club officials again and others who help run the club, plus members who turn up on a regular basis.

**Bob Dyke, chairman, East Grinstead Chess Club**



**THE way we were... looking forward to the return of street chess**

### Horsham

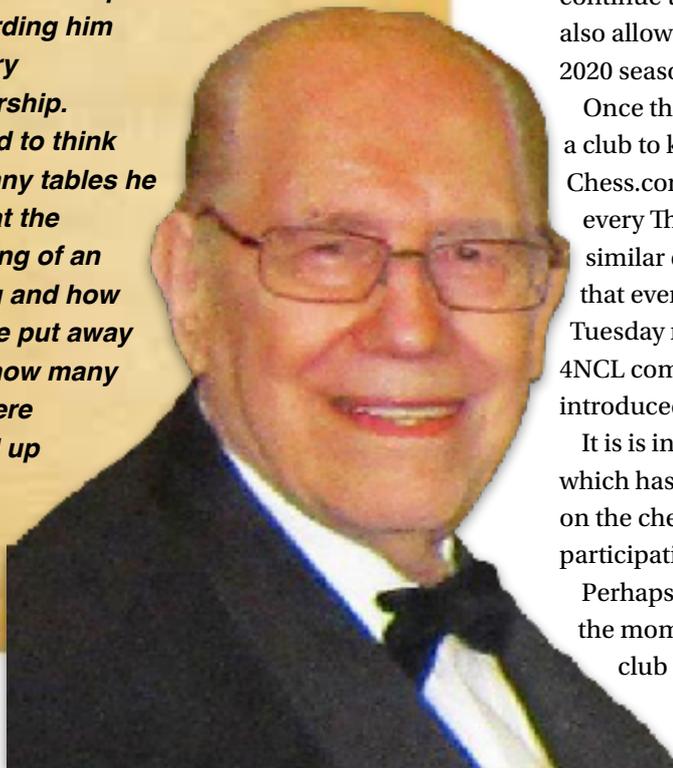
**C** OVID 19 had as big an impact on Horsham chess as everyone else. We lost the last 15 weeks of our season which did not allow Mid-Sussex League or our club competitions to be completed.

John Cannon has decided to step down from the chairmanship of the club, having celebrated his 90th birthday. His contribution to the club has been absolutely outstanding and the whole club owes him a great debt. He has been a stalwart of Horsham and Sussex chess for decades and I wrote a full testament to all his contributions in last year's Sussex Chess News. This extract best summarises his outstanding achievements:

**JOHN CANNON joined Horsham Chess Club in 1958 and was secretary (1964 to 2005), match secretary (1967 to 2005) and first team captain (1966 to 2006).**

**He became chairman in 2005, continuing remarkable decades of service to our club. In 2018 Horsham Chess Club recognised his 60 years of club membership and service by awarding him honorary membership.**

**I dread to think how many tables he set up at the beginning of an evening and how many he put away again, how many cups were washed up while others rushed home!**



*'We were keen as a club to keep up the chess'*

In the Mid-Sussex League it was very unfortunate that the season had to be suspended with just a few games remaining. Horsham 1 were in pole position (7.5/8) when the season was suspended, having only drawn one game (Hastings 2) and with just Eastbourne and Hastings 1 matches outstanding.

Horsham 2 were also in division 1 and had managed a credible 3.5/8 which was keeping them above the relegation zone in eighth place. Horsham 3 had also scored 3.5/8 in division 2 in fifth place while Horsham 4 scored 3/6 in division 4. As usual, we also took part in the Sussex competitions and reached the final of the Paul Watson Cup before further matches were suspended.

Horsham club games were also impacted, our knockout games were approaching completion and the all-play-all were most effective as they are played in the final third of the season. Our current intention is to continue the competition into next season which will also allow some flexibility if there is any impact to the 2020 season.

Once the lockdown came into force we were keen as a club to keep up the chess. We decided on the popular Chess.com platform and have a couple of hours of play every Thursday. The Mid-Sussex League also set up a similar event on a Thursday and so we also support that event once every three weeks. In addition, Tuesday nights have become long-play nights with 4NCL competition and when that is completed we have introduced long-play club matches.

It is interesting to see the boom in online chess which has been occurring during lockdown - not just on the chess sites but also with online opinion formers participating in chess matches online.

Perhaps we are beginning a golden age of chess - for the moment we just look forward to getting back to club night chess!

**Ian Comley, secretary**

# Double sacrifice that proves to be rook solid

Steve Smith looks back on a rarely seen combo

**T**he elusive double rook sacrifice: this much beloved tactic of Victorian masters when playing amateurs rarely occurs in modern games.

In some ways, this is a shame as the frisson of excitement generated by an irrecoverable loss of material cannot easily be replicated by other combinational motifs.

In more than 50 years of chess playing I can only conjure up two examples – enjoy.

Steve Smith v Andy Scoffin,  
Portsmouth, PDCL Div 1 April 4, 1989

**1. d4 f5 2. e4 fe 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. g4 d6 5. g5 Nd7 6. Nxe4 e5 7. d5 b6 8. Bd3 Na6 9. Be3 Bb7 10. c4 Qe7 11. Ne2 OOO 12. Qa4 Kb8 13. b4 Qf7 14. N2c3 g6 15. c5 dc 16. Bxa6 Bxd5 17. Rd1 Bxe4 18. Nxe4 Qf3 19. Qc6 Qxh1+ 20. Ke2 Qxd1+ 21. Kxd1 1-0**

Unfortunately, black cannot play either of Ne5 or Nc5 with discovered check.

A nerve-wracking combo to leave h1 en prise with check.

The second game is of more recent vintage.



*'The second game is of more recent vintage'*

It was played on an outdoor paving stone board with giant pieces (King height c.900 mm) near to Liverpool Street railway station during a lunch break.

A gathering crowd of some 50 spectators provided generous applause at the conclusion.

Steve Smith v Nonso Ekpo,  
October, 2009

**1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 e6 3. e4 Be7 4. Nd2 OO 5. Bd3 c6 6. Bxf6 Bxf6 7. e5 Be7 8. h4 Qb6 9. Ngf3 Qxb2 10. Rb1 Qxa2 11. Bxh7+ Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg8 13. Qh5 Qxc2 14. Nde4 Qxb1+ 15. Ke2 Qc2+ 16. Ke3 Bxg5 17. hxg5 f5 18. Qh8+ Kf7 19. Nd6+ Ke7 (19. ... Kg6 20. Qh5++) 20. Qxf8 Kxf8 21. Rh8+ Ke7 22. Re8++ 1-0**



# It's a win, win situation for our quick-thinking youngsters



FULL HOUSE... a well-attended Hastings tournament

Carol Graham reflects on another successful campaign

**T**HE 2019-20 season got off to a storming start with our Under 12 and Under 16 teams both winning their sections at the NYCA (National Youth Chess Association) inter-county finals in September.

Between September and Christmas our usual programme of training days and tournaments took place, all of which were well attended. Our president, GM David



NOW PAY ATTENTION... GM David Howell attends a training day

Howell, made a guest appearance at our February training and was a

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## JUNIOR CHESS

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great hit with the children. Our inter-schools cups launched successfully at Under 11 and Under 14 level and we were about to launch at Under 16 and Under 19 after a gap of several years. Training and preparation of our county squads was well underway with all teams enjoying warm-up friendlies with neighbouring counties.

And then the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic dramatically changed the way we all live, impacting on everyone's health, wellbeing and livelihoods.

The necessary cessation of all over the board (OTB) chess activity has left our grand prix tournament series, and our inter-schools competitions unfinished; the



**CLOCKING ON... the girls championship in December, 2019**

National inter-county Under-9, Under 11 and Under 11 girls teams events cancelled; and the NCJS trial for qualification to the England squad also cancelled.

The Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge, one of the



**VICTORY  
TASTES  
SWEET ...  
the NYCA  
Under 12  
team**

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## JUNIOR CHESS

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**WINNING WAYS...** The NYCA Under 16 team, left, and, below, twins Ben Peter celebrate their 13th birthday playing for Sussex Under 14s

largest children's chess competitions in the World, moved quickly to replace the OTB Megafinals, Gigafinals and Terafinales with online versions (hosted on Lichess) at a quicker time limit.

In Sussex we set up online small group training sessions with our regular coaches via the Zoom platform, running eight sessions per week at its peak during full lockdown. These proved very popular with places being snapped up within hours of being released.

We also partnered with FIDE International Organiser Adam Raof (who many will know as the organiser of the popular Golders Green and Hampstead events) to run two



Rapidplay Swiss tournaments using the new Tournele platform.

So in general, junior chess has adapted well to the "new normal". There are a huge number of playing

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## JUNIOR CHESS

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### FEELING CHAMPION ... Some of our youngest players battle to become Sussex Under 8 champion

opportunities online 24/7, and the more rapid time controls are popular with juniors.

However, it is a source of regret that this season's Under 11s have lost their opportunity to represent their county nationally, and to challenge for qualification to the NCJS Under 11 England Squad. Also for our younger players it is not quite so satisfying to see your name against a 'badge' on Lichess as it is to take away a shiny trophy from an event that you can take into school and show your friends!

However, there are a number of challenges facing us as we move towards a new season with no clear timescale or guidelines on the resumption of OTB:

- Adaptation of our funding model to cope with the loss of income from traditional

events, in particular the 2020 UKCC Megafinal

- Finding new ways to engage with new players as it appears that extra-curricular activities such as chess will not be able to take place in schools, at least in the short term

- Providing development opportunities for juniors to move from rapidplay to standardplay to enable them to integrate into local clubs and congresses

- Work with our partner schools to plan for a 'new normal' for OTB clubs and tournaments

*'There are a number of challenges facing us as we move towards a new season'*

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## JUNIOR CHESS

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**STUDIES IN CONCENTRATION...**  
some of our youngest players  
battle to become Sussex Under 8  
champion



# Crucial league-decider offers a real conundrum

**Mid-Sussex League Div 1, Horsham 1 v Hastings 1, F. Rayner (Hastings) – A.R.J. Higgs (Horsham)**

A game from the crucial match which decided Mid-Sussex League Division 1 last year. Despite the result in this game, Hastings prevailed.

**1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nbd7 4.g4!?! h6 5.h3 e5 6.Be3** [Two months earlier Matt Payne had played 6.Nge2 against me in the league. I chose a plan involving putting my bishop on g7 but this turned out to be passive and Matt won comfortably. After that game I looked at some alternatives, mostly against 6.Nge2 but also against other moves. This game vs Francis saw a definite improvement!]  
**6...Be7 7.Bg2 c6 8.a4 Nf8!?** [I have played lots of games in this structure where Black plays Qc7 to overprotect e5 before playing Nf8. I realised in this particular position that I don't have to move the queen first, instead with 8... Nf8 I am posing White a conundrum – either Nge2-g3 and allow Black's knight to reach h4, or play Nf3 which controls h4 but impedes the f2-f4 push which is the point of the variation. Francis chooses the most principled and aggressive continuation...]  
**9.Nge2 Ng6 10.Ng3 Nh4 11.O-O g6** [Always the best response to a White knight appearing on g3 in this opening]  
**12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4?!** [This is what I expected and thought was best, but in view of what follows it appears that 13.Rxf4 was better]  
**13...h5!** [I took a long time over this move, because the response as played by

Francis is critical and needed plenty of analysis. It turns out that the computer approves of my choice and Black has equalised] **14.e5! dxe5 15.Bxe5?** [The wrong follow-up, as Francis admitted after the game. In response to the better 15.dxe5 I had planned 15...Qb6+ 16.Kh1 Nxe4!?! with dynamic equality – White cannot take the knight due to the crushing attack on the h-file and Black is a pawn up, but the White knights can reach d6 or f6 easily which leaves the position unclear]  
**15...Nxe4 16.Kxe4 hxe4 17.Nge4 gxh3+ 18.Kh1 Nxe4!** [When playing 15.Bxe5 possibly Francis overlooked that now 19.Bxe4 can be met with 19...Ng3+. Now Black has a large advantage]  
**19.Nxe4 Qd5 20.Qf3 Bf5 21.Rae1 O-O-O** [Even better was 21... Rh4! which I briefly considered, but thought I was losing a piece after 22.Nf6+ Bxf6 23.Bxf6+, missing that I could then block with 23...Re4. The move played is still good as the bishops are worth more than rooks here]  
**22.Bxe4 Rxe4 23.Ng3 Be6 24.Kh2 Bd6 25.Qf6??** [An unfortunate blunder under time pressure, but White is lost in any case. For example: 25.Qxd5 Bxd5 26.Rg1 (otherwise Bxe4 and h2) 26...f5 and White is helpless against the advancing f and g pawns]  
**25...Qg2#**

**Anthony Higgs**

**Mid-Sussex League Div 1, Brighton 1 v Horsham 1, P.M. Stimpson (Horsham) – P. Selby (Brighton)**

A nice miniature in a topical variation of the Caro-Kann.

*'An unfortunate blunder ... but White is lost in any case'*

## GAMES

**1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nc3 e6  
5.g4 Bg6 6.h4 h5 7.g5 Nd7 8.Nge2 c5  
9.Be3 Ne7 10.Nf4 cxd4 11.Bxd4 Qa5  
12.b4! Qd8 13.Bd3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 g6  
15.0-0 Nf5 16.Ncxd5! exd5? 17.e6  
Nhx4 18.exd7+ Qxd7 19.Rfe1+ Be7  
20.Bxh8 Qg4+ 21.Qg3 Nf3+ 22.Kf1  
Nd2+ 23.Kg2 1-0**

**Paul Watson Cup, Horsham v Bognor  
& Arun W.J. Marshall (Horsham) –  
W.H. Partridge (Bognor & Arun)**

An error-strewn but wild and entertaining game in which both players felt compelled to sacrifice even though prudence may have been better...

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3  
Nbd7 5.Bc4 c6? 6.Ng5?! [6.dxe5 Nxe5  
7.Nxe5 dxe5 8.Bxf7+! wins a pawn]  
6...d5 7.exd5 cxd5 8.Nxd5!** [Fritz approves of this, but I noticed that Black could apparently now simply exchange on d5 and win the bishop with ...Qa5+] **8...Nxd5 9.Nxf7** [Instead 9.Qh5! g6 10.Qf3 N7f6 11.Bxd5 Qxd5 12.Qxf6 exploiting the overworked queen to regain the piece] **9...Kxf7 10.Bxd5+ Ke8 11.dxe5 Be7 12.Bf4 Rf8 13.Bg3** [Unfortunately 13.Qh5+ doesn't work: 13...g6 14.Qxh7 Qa5+ winning the bishop] **13...Rf5 14.Be6 Qa5+ 15.c3 Rg5** [By now both players are down to around 44 minutes] **16.f4 Rg6 17.Qh5?!** [This is not best] **17...Nf6!** [17...Nxe5 was equally good, winning a pawn] **18.Qf5 Qb6?** [After this Black is losing. 18...Bxe6 is what I expected which forces simplification and saves the knight] **19.Bxc8 Qxb2 20.O-O Qxc3 21.exf6** [I considered 21.Bxb7 but thought this was simpler] **21...Rxf6 22.Bd7+ Kf8 23.Qxh7 Rh6 24.Qf5+ Rf6 25.Qe4** [I

felt I was winning here but that I had to be careful to avoid mate 'along the corridor' with ...Bc5+, ...Qxg3 and ...Rh6 mate ideas. However, if the bishop remains on d7 it can interpose on h3] **25...Bc5+ 26.Kh1 Qxg3?? 27.Qh7?** [I was somewhat taken aback by Black's move and missed the Bh3 defence, but White is still winning comfortably] **27...Rd8 28.hxg3 Rh6+ 29.Qxh6 gxh6 1-0**

**John Marshall**

### Game's pin sharp finish



**Mid-Sussex League Div 1,  
Eastbourne 1 vs Horsham 1  
G.R. Lock (Horsham) – R.  
Norinkeviciute  
(Eastbourne)**

**A very nice finish from  
Horsham's top board, Gavin  
Lock.**

**Here Black went for ...Qxh3  
but White had it all under  
control, as there followed:  
Ng6+! fxc6 gxh3! – a  
beautiful example of the  
aesthetics of pinning and  
unpinning.**

*'I was  
somewhat  
taken aback by  
Black's move'*

## GAMES

**106th British Championships Seniors 65+, July-August, 2019, Adrian Pickersgill, white, v Paul Hutchinson, 1-0.**

This game was played in Round 5 of the British Chess Championships Over 65 event in Torquay in the Summer of 2019.

My opponent had an ECF grade of 216 in July, 2009, but had taken a break from chess over the last ten years.

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 { The opening referred to by "Batsford Chess Openings 2" as the Centre Counter, but referred to as the Scandinavian in "Winning with the Scandinavian." }

3.Nc3 Qd6 { This is a perfectly reasonable line in the Scandinavian, Qa5 and Qd8 are also played. }

4.Nf3 Nf6 5.g3 { White's plan is to fianchetto the bishop, and perhaps to play the other bishop to f4. Black's queen will undoubtedly have to move again. }

5...a6 6.Bg2 e5 7.O-O Nc6 8.d3 Be7 9.Re1 O-O 10.h3 { The computer gives Nxe5 as a slightly stronger move, but h3 is played to prevent a pin by the bishop on g4. }

10...Re8 11.Be3 { Here Nxe5 was certainly a stronger move. } 11...Nd4 12.Nxd4 { Bg5 was another plan, but white is going for his original plan of an attack on the queen. }

12...exd4 13.Bf4 Qb6 14.Na4 Qa5 { The fourth move by the black queen on only his 14th move. } 15.b3 Rb8 { ? Here the computer gives c6 as the correct move giving the player an escape for the queen to d8. }

16.Re5 b5 { ?? Continuing with his original idea, but the plan is flawed. The only move here was Qb4. } 17.Bd2 { Black's queen has no escape square, and the final nail in his coffin is that his rooks are not connected. } 17...Bb4



18.Rxe8+ Nxe8 19.Qe1 { Diagram # Black is either mated or loses his bishop and queen. The game is a good example of an early Queen sortie by black which goes dramatically wrong. Sadly for me, Paul Hutchinson finished higher than I did in the congress, but I still had the pleasure of one of my better games. } 1-0 ➔ [PLAY ONLINE](#)

**Adrian Pickersgill**

*"IT'S life Jim but not as we know it."*  
As the title phrase, apocryphally associated with Star Trek, sums up the state to which Covid-19 has reduced us.

Real chess has been replaced by online speed chess. The result is that the quality of chess, even at 'reasonable' speed time limits, has plunged into the gutter.

I watched - from a safe distance - as my London-based colleagues of King's Head Chess Club engaged in an online match in the 4NCL's substitute webserver league.

The time-rate is 45 minutes per player per game, with a 15 sec increment from move 1. Our team ranged from roughly 205 to 170 in real gradings.

Despite that numerical reflection of concrete talent, and despite the

*'Black is either mated or loses his bishop and queen'*

not-unreasonable time-limit, the lads comported themselves as might be expected of a collection of drunken ESN epileptics set loose in a glassware shop.

When I played for KH in the early rounds of the plague-time online 4NCL, I had exactly the same experience. In consequence, I withdrew from team selection in shock and, at the time of writing, I am not sure whether I want to return.

“In-club” training has been replaced by blizzards of online 5-minute games. I don’t know what the general experience has been, but I have found myself repeatedly losing on time in overwhelming positions.

The next most-frequent experience is losing prosaically after making extreme unforced errors, conditioned by the online format, rather than by the inherent time pressure of blitz.

I have accepted that I am going to lose the great majority of my online 5-minute games. [Although more recently I have been winning slightly more than I am losing, but it’s still a bleak experience.]

I am treating the enterprise [yes, another ‘Star Trek’ reference, sorreeee,] as openings training and experimentation and just something to keep the rust off, until we get back to normal, if ever.

The following is a fair illustration of the depths to which we have sunk. It represents the ‘new normal’. The truth is that I played 2 ... Nc6 without having noticed that White’s second move was b4. After that, I consciously stopped caring. I just slung pieces down the board towards the white king, without anything that might fairly be represented as thought or calculation.

The joke is that I ran the game through the website’s in-house mega-computer afterwards, and it found a serious measure of merit in my basic opening ‘idea’.

I have redacted some of the details in the website’s data, just from my personal caprice.

**Rated 5-minute game, May 27, 2020.  
White: Sad Victim. Black: Hero of Sussex. 0-1. Opening Sicilian Defence: Wing Gambit. Termination Normal. (That’s not my choice of phrase, it’s how the website described it!)**

1. e4 c5 2. b4 Nc6 3. bxc5 e5 4. f4 Bxc5 5. Nf3 exf4 6. d4 Be7 7. d5 Bh4+ 8. Ke2 Qb6 9. dxc6 Qf2+ 10. Kd3 bxc6 11. Bxf4 Ba6+ 12. c4 Nf6 13. Be3 Bxc4+ 14. Kxc4 Qxe3 15. Nc3 d5+ 16. exd5 cxd5+ 17. Nxd5 Rc8+ 18. Kb4 Nxd5+ 19. Ka4 Nc3+ 20. Ka5 Qb6#  
0-1.

**Feliks Kwiatkowski**

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**Southampton League, White: A. Martinez-Sykora, Black: J. Wilson, 0-1. Opening English Opening: Anglo-Indian Defence, Queen’s Indian Formation, May 26, 2020.**

It’s not the most exciting in the world, but there was one key moment.. 1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.O-O Be7 6.Nc3 O-O 7.Qc2 { 7.d4 transposes into the Queen’s Indian, while 7.Re1 is apparently very popular with a view to playing e4. } 7...d5 8.Ne5 c5 9.d3 Nc6 10.Nxc6 Bxc6

*‘I just slung pieces down the board towards the white king’*

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## GAMES

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11.e4 dxc4 { 11...d4 wins a tempo, but I wasn't so keen to close the centre. } 12.dxc4 Qc8 13.Bf4 Qb7 14.Rad1 Rad8 15.f3 h6 { A useful waiting move, but it seems there is little happening. } 16.b3 Rd7 17.Rxd7 Nxd7 18.Rd1 Bf6 { Another bishop gravitates to a long diagonal. } 19.Bc1 { The key moment. After a move like 19.Be3 there is nothing but now I get a chance to go on the attack. } 19...Bd4+ 20.Kh1 f5 { The black pieces come to life, though it's by no means decisive. } 21.Re1 Nf6 22.Bb2 fxe4 23.Nxe4 Nxe4 { Simpler than the computer suggestion of 23...Bxe4 24.fxe4 Ng4. } 24.fxe4 Rf2 25.Re2 Rxe2 26.Qxe2 Bxb2 27.Qxb2 Bxe4 28.Bxe4 Qxe4+ 29.Kg1 { And my opponent resigned in gentlemanly fashion while I was calculating the pawn endings after 29...Qd4+. } 0-1

**Jaimie Wilson**

⇒ [PLAY ONLINE](#)

**White: Mark Broom (200) Black: Viktor Stoyanov (220), Surrey v Sussex, Open, Board 2, September 28, 2019**

1 c4 c5  
2 g3 g6  
3 Bg2 Bg7  
4 Nc3 Nc6  
5 e4 d6  
6 Nge2 e6  
7 0-0 Nge7  
8 d3 0-0  
9 Rb1 a6 (White's ninth delays or avoids Be3 which is met by Nd4. Black will often play b6, but this is a more aggressive alternative. It does create a weakness on b6, so Be3 is now a good reply).  
10 Be3 Nd4 (given a6 is played Black should probably sacrifice the

pawn with b5. He plays the standard Nd4, but this does create a hole to exploit).

11 b4 Nec6

12 bc dc (each side has a backward and associated weakness, but Black's is worse).

13 Na4 Qd6

14 Nb6 Rb8

15 Nd4 (f4 looks better).

15 ... Nd4

16 Bf4 e5 (this is a mistake; Be5 here, or even taking with the Bishop on the previous move, and it is around level).

17 Bg5 Be6

18 Qd2 f6

19 Be3 Rbd8

20 Nd5 (this is the problem with Black's 16<sup>th</sup>. White cures his weakness, leaving Black's even worse).

20 ... Bd5

21 ed Rb8

22 Bd4 cd

23 Qa5 Rfc8

24 Rb6 Qd8

25 d6 (now White is clearly winning, and only care is needed).

25 ... Bh6

26 Rfb1 Kh8

27 h4 Bg7

28 Qd5 f5

29 Rb7 Rb7

30 Rb7 Rb8

31 c5 e4

32 d7 Rb7

33 Qb7 ed

34 Qc8 Bf6

35 c6 d2

36 Bf3 Kg7

37 c7 Qe7 (Black could clearly have resigned, but there is a humorous finish)

38 Qe8 Qe1

39 Kg2 d1Q

40 Bd1 Qd1

41 d8Q Bd8

*'White cures his weakness, leaving Black's even worse'*

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## GAMES

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42 cdQ Kh6

43 Qf8 Kh5

44 Qg5 mate

► [PLAY ONLINE](#)

**Mark Broom**

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**Horsham 1 v Brighton 1, Mid-Sussex  
League, Board 2, November 19, 2019,  
Mark Broom, white, v  
Luke Rutherford**

1.Nf3 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.d4 e6 4.Bf4 d5  
5.e3 Nc6 6.Be2 Bd6 7.dxc5 Bxf4 8.exf4  
Qe7 9.b4 a5 10.b5 Nb8 11.Qd4 O-O  
12.Ne5 Nfd7 13.Nd3 a4 14.Nd2 Nf6  
15.O-O Rd8 16.Rab1 Bd7 17.Rb4 Ra5  
18.Rfb1 Be8 19.a3 Rc8 20.Bd1 Nbd7  
21.Bxa4 Nxc5 22.Nxc5. 1-0.

**Mark Broom**

► [PLAY ONLINE](#)

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**Bernard Cafferty v Ian Comley.  
Hastings 2 v Horsham 2, October 24,  
2019**

1 Nf3 d5 2 c4 e6 3 g3 Nf6 4 Bg2 c5 5  
e3 dxc4 6 Na3 Bd7 7 Ne5

Otherwise 7...Bc6 would be fine for  
Black

7...Qc8 8 Nxd7 Nfxd7 9 Nxc4 Nc6 10  
b3 b5

This fails in its objective and lets White  
have free play on the long white  
diagonal

11 Qf3! bxc4 12 Qxc6 Qxc6 13 Bxc6  
Rc8 14 Bb5

This keeps up the pressure on the white  
squares, whereas snatching a pawn by  
14 Bxd7+ would allow counter play  
along the b-file

14...cxb3 15 axb3 Rb8 16 Ra5! Rb7 17  
Bb2 f6 18 Ke2 Bd6 19 Rha1 Bb8 20 d4  
cxd4 21 Bxd4 Ke7 22 b4!

Once the B is anchored on c5, Black is  
shut in, particularly his rooks

22...a6 23 Bxd7 Kxd7 24 Bc5 Be5 25  
Rd1+ Ke8 26 Rxa6 Kf7 27 Rd3 Rhb8 28  
f4 Bc7

28...Bb2 would soon lose the B

29 Rd7+ Kg6 30 Rxe6 Black resigns.

**Bernard Cafferty**

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**Middlesex League  
2019-20, Division 1, Round  
11. White: Rhys Cumming, Muswell  
Hill 1.**

**Black: Feliks Kwiatkowski, King's  
Head 1. November 20, 2019. The  
Carpenter's Arms,  
Marylebone. Anti-Gruenfeld  
System.**

This was played on Board 1 of the  
match. The time limit was game in  
75 minutes, with a 15-sec  
increment. It was a surprise to find  
an illustrious Sussex player on the  
other side of the board in this  
London game. 1.d4 Nf6; 2.c4 g6;  
3.f3 Nc6; 4.d5 Ne5; 5.e4 d6; 6.Nc3  
Bg7; 7.f4 Ned7; 8.Nh3! 0-0;.  
[8.Nh3 ... is the main line of this  
eccentric ... Nc6 system. White  
intends Nf2 ... , overprotecting e4.  
Black will try to undermine the  
White centre with pawn exchanges.  
I have played the ... Nc6 system a  
few times, with positive results, but  
I don't believe it's 'correct'. The  
specific Gruenfeld solution is 3 ...  
d5, but I don't believe in being  
wedded to a ... d5 solution, just  
because you had intended to play a  
... d5 opening. From the viewpoint  
of playing the move which the  
position demands, I suspect the  
'correct' solution is 3. ... c5.]  
9.Be2 e5!?. [I chose a rare idea,  
because the common ideas - ...  
Nc5 or ... e6 - have good  
outcomes for White in the database.

*'Black will try to  
undermine the  
White centre  
with pawn  
exchanges'*

## GAMES

White should now have taken en passant. 10.de fe; 11.Be3 ... ; is a hard test.]

10.f5? Nc5; [Now Black gets an active game.] 11.Qc2 Nfxe4!;

[It took 15 precious minutes to find the guts to play this, but it's the computer's early choice.]

12.Nxe4 Bxf5; 13.Bf3 Nxe4; 14.Bxe4 Bxh3; 15.g4 Qh4+; 16.Kd1 Qxh3;

[I just wanted to get some material, but the computer ignores the pawn. It suggests 16. ... Rae8, with ... f5 to come, and assesses Black as slightly better. ]

17.Qg2 Qh5+; 18.Kc2 f5; 19.Bd3

Qh4; 20.Bg5 Qd4; 21.Qg1 e4;

22.Qxd4 Bxd4; 23.Be2 Kg7; [At this point, White had 32 minutes left for the game, while Black had 25.] 24. Bf4 h6;

25.h4 Rae8; 26.Raf1 Rh8; 27.Rh2 Kf6;

28.Rg2 Reg8; 29.Bd2 g5; 30.Bg4 f4;

[Here, the computer suggests sacrificing the piece back, with a roughly even game. White now had about 11 minutes, while I had 9.]

31.Be6 Rf8; 32.Rg4 e3; [W: 4 mins; B:

8 mins.] 33.Be1 c5; 34.Kd3? ... ; [A time trouble blunder, of course.] 34. ...

Bxb2; 35.R1g1 Ke7; [The machine likes

35. ... Kg6; 36.hg h5;] 36.hg hg;

37.Rxg5 f3?;

[The machine condemns my last move, suggesting ... b6; , with a small White plus. ]

38.Rg7+ Ke8! [A reasonable try, preserving the bishop to support the rolling pawns. By now White had 90 seconds, while I had 30 seconds left.]

39.Rxb7 f2; 40.Bd7+ Ke7; [Planning the run to f6.] 41.Bxf2 ef;

[White cracks. The machine suggests 41.Ba4+ Kf6; 42.Rf1 Bd4; with a minimal White plus. I fancy Black's practical chances.]

42.Bf5+ Kf6; 43.Rf1 Bd4; 44.Be6 Ke5;

[ 44. ... Kg5 is the machine choice, but Black is now better in any event. It's

'just' a question of holding your nerve.]

45.Rxa7 Rf3+! ; 46.Kd2 Rb8; 47.Ke2

Rc3; [47. ... Re3+; is a forced mate.

Work it out for yourself, but take only 15 seconds, and don't use silicon.]

48.Rd1 Re3+; [48. ... Rb2+ is yet

another forced mate.] 49.Kxf2 Ra3+;

[Again, Rb2+ is an OBVIOUS mate in 9. Can't see how I failed to spot that.]

50.Rxd4 Rxa7;

[Here was the idea: a routine slow technical win, with obvious plans, and limited chances for me to blunder while 'on the increment'.]

51.Rd2 Rb4; 52.Re2+ Kd4; 53.Bf5 Rf7;

54.Re4+ Kc3; 55.Rf4 Rxc4; 56.Rf3+

Kb2; 57.Be6 Rxf3+; 58.Kxf3 Kxa2.

No more moves were recorded in the time scramble. My king finished on d4 and my rook on e5. I was about to take the last enemy pawn on d5 when White resigned, on about move 65.

Obviously it was very satisfying to outplay somebody roughly one-third of my age, graded 224, with Black. 0-1.

**Feliks Kwiatkowski**

**Mid-Sussex Chess League, Division 1.**

**White: Feliks Kwiatkowski (Haywards**

**Heath 1). Black: Dominic**

**Miller(Worthing 1.**

**January 27, 2020. Worthing.**

**Sicilian Defence, Sozin variation.**

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4

Nf6; 5.Nc3 Nc6; [This was played on

board one of the match. Black deviated from his expected French Defence. In turn, I felt compelled to deviate from

the usual 6.Bg5... , against which I

*'The machine condemns my last move'*

## GAMES

have poor results in the database. ]

6.Bc4 e6; 7.Be3 Be7; 8. 0-0 0-0;  
9.Bb3 Na5; [Black's choice is  
reasonable, but the accepted main  
line goes 9 ... a6; 10.f4 Nxd4;  
11.Bxd4 b5;]

10.f4 Nxb3; 11. ab Bd7?!; [This takes  
d7 away from the knight.] 12.e5 Nd5;  
['Computer says' – 12. ... de; 13.fe  
Ne8; 14.Qf3 ... ; with a small White  
plus. Black is passive but at least the  
knight defends the K-side.] 13.Nxd5  
ed; 14.Qf3 de; 15.fe Bc6?; [ Going to  
e6 would have readied Black to  
exchange the White knight, which  
now becomes influential. One  
mistake becomes the father of  
another , as so often happens, but  
Black is now much worse anyway.]  
16.Nf5 Bg5?; 17.Bc5! d4; [If 17. ...  
Re8; 18.Nxg7 was the planned win.]

18.Qg3 Re8; 19.Bxd4 ... .

[I was just happy to snap off the  
pawn, leaving multiple threats against  
d6 and g7 hanging. Black resigned in  
reply, his position being ruined. You  
might think I could be well satisfied  
here. Alas, I missed the chance of  
something pretty. 19.Be7! would have  
been immediately devastating.]

1-0.

**Feliks Kwiatkowski**



**4NCL, Division 2, Round 5. White:  
Feliks Kwiatkowski (King's Head).  
Black: Akshaya Kalaiyalahan  
(Guildford 3). Saturday, February 8,  
Daventry.Sicilian Defence;  
Accelerated Dragon; Maroczy Bind.**

This was played on board 2 of the  
match. It's probably the last pleasant  
game I played before Covid-19 hit us.  
The rate of play was 40 moves in 100  
mins. each, the second session being  
all moves in 50 mins. each, and a 30-  
sec increment throughout. I had half-  
expected this opponent, and was  
moderately prepared. Despite the  
result, my opinion is that the  
Accelerated Dragon, with or without  
the Bind, is a very effective defence.

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4  
g6; 5.c4 Bg7; 6.Be3 Nf6; 7.Nc3 d6;  
8.Be2 0-0; 9.0-0 Bd7; 10.Qd2 Nxd4;  
11. Bxd4 Bc6; 12.f3 a5; 13.b3 Nd7;  
14.Be3 Nc5; 15.Rab1 Qb6;

[This is the main line. White plans to  
use his space advantage by keeping  
pieces on the board and by creeping  
forward on the Q-side. I had expected  
Black to play the plan involving 15.  
... e6; or 15... Be5, presaging ... Qh4  
and ... f5. Instead, she went for the  
traditional line, which sets out to  
restrain the White Q-side pawns.]

16.Rfc1 Rfc8; 17.Rc2 h5!?

[Believe it or not, Black's last is still  
book. The idea is to exchange the  
White QB, with ideas like ... Qf8, ...  
Kh7 and ... Bh6. White will then be  
left with the worse bishop.]

18. a3 ... ; [I took a casual six  
minutes. I had no thought other than  
to start creeping forward on the Q-  
side. While waiting for Black's reply, I  
was shocked to notice that I had left  
the b3 pawn en prise. I tried keeping  
a stone face. After a 15-minute  
ponder, Black duly took it.] 18. ...  
Nxb3.

[I was so disgusted. I wanted to resign

*'Alas, I missed  
the chance of  
something  
pretty'*

at once, but I knew it would not look good to my team-mates, plus I had travelled a very long way to play this game. The problem is that I had not noticed that 19.Bxb6 Nxd2; 20.Rxd2 Bxc3 wins a pawn for Black. I stiffened my already-stony face and fell into thought. I played the game move, with a “fake-confident” thump of the piece, after 16 minutes’ pondering, more on the basis that I couldn’t see it losing immediately, rather than under the impression it was strong.]

19.Nd5! Bxd5;

[Black’s problem is that if 19. ... Nxd2; 20.Rxb6 ... ; and the Black knight is trapped. I found later that the offer of the b3 pawn, implicit on my move 18, is a well-known book trap, whether after 17. ... h5; or after other, comparable, Black 17<sup>th</sup> moves – check the database. My darlings: your hero had been simply wonderful, without knowing it. After Nd5, Black was visibly stunned. She took 34 minutes to capture the horsie. According to the ‘Chessbase’ database, this is one of four games to reach this position. There have been no Black survivors to date.]

20.ed Bh6; [‘Computer says’ this is the least worst move.] 21.Rxb3 ... ; [Here I might have played 21.Bxb6 Nxd2; 22.Rbb2 ... ; when the trapped knight will force decisive concessions. I was over-hasty. All I saw was that, after my choice, the two bishops would be easily better than the Black rook and the Black King would be weak. Further, my opponent had taken 17 minutes to find ... Bh6. She was down to 12 minutes, plus the

increment, to make move 40. I thought there was no way she could defend.]

21. ... Qxb3; 22.Bxh6 Qxa3; 23.Be3! ... ; [This repositions the QB on the key diagonal.] 23. ... a4; [Black had 3 minutes left.] 24.Bd4 Kh7; 25.Ra2 Qb3; 26.Rb2 Qa3; 27.Rxb7 Re8; 28.Qf4 f5; 29.Qg5 ...

Black resigned. 1-0.

**Feliks Kwiatkowski**



*‘I played the game move, with a “fake confident” thump of the piece’*

**The pin is mightier than the sword**

**THERE were no adjudications received this year**

**Robert Elliston**

**LIKEWISE, there is no correspondence chess activity to report on**

**James Mansson**

# Club legends who swept the board



**Cup that cheers ...** Ray Williams celebrates with his team-mates

Steve Smith  
pays tribute  
to two Chi  
stalwarts

**C**HICHESTER has lost two of its stalwart members recently - club president Ray Williams and very popular member Alex Miller.

**Ray Williams, December 27, 1935  
- February 9, 2020**

Ray Williams passed away on Sunday, February 9. Chichester Chess Club observed a minute's silence in his memory.

Ray lived a long and productive life during which chess featured prominently over a period of more than 65 years.

John Wheeler provided the following information about the photograph which accompanies this article - thank you.

John Wheeler played Ray several times during the 1950s in Devon before catching up again in PDCL in 1975.

"It's almost certainly the presentation of the Goodman Cup to the winners of the Plymouth Schools Chess League, probably in 1951 or 1952. The winning team was

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## OBITUARIES

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from Devonport High School, and their captain, receiving the cup, is J.D. (Trigger) Mills. Ray is far right. The cup was donated to the Schools League by J.B. Goodman, President of the Plymouth Chess Club at the time, and is here being presented by his wife. It is certainly a good picture of Ray.”

At Chichester Chess Club, Ray held things together when the club was in some difficulties over venue and finances. At his peak he was a very strong player and captained the A team for many years. He won the Club Championship no fewer than eight times, an individual record unlikely to be surpassed any time soon. These titles ranged across four decades, the first being in 1976 and the last in 2001.

Ray’s contribution to chess was significant over many years. He lived in Plymouth and played as a schoolboy, he played when he studied at Imperial College London and later as part of a very strong Plessey team in the PDCL. Ray played for many years at county level, actively turning out for Sussex.

Alongside playing chess, Ray undertook several administrative roles in support of the game and its governance. He was Sussex delegate to ECF for many years and a story goes that at one such meeting, probably in 1970s, he also acted on behalf of the Hampshire delegate. After a strident discussion the meeting chairman called for a vote, knowing it would be a tight call.

Ray voted with both hands, having two votes on this occasion, but this confused both chairman and vote counter and the meeting descended into some confusion. Ray explained he had delegated authority for such action. He told me that he remained convinced that the outcome of the vote was changed during the

*‘He won the club championship eight times’*

subsequent recount. We will never know for sure but this episode illustrates the wealth of experience Ray accumulated across the chess scene.

Our thoughts are with his wife Vicky, daughter Rowena, family and friends.

### **Alex Miller, 1952 - 2020**

**A**LEX MILLER died in January this year. He was found dead at his home after a fall. At the suggestion of his son, Alex joined Chichester Chess Club after the death of his wife.

He played there for over 10 years and brought with him some vibrant and imaginative chess having played in his younger years. He instantly became a well respected player and was a lovely person to have at the club, a really nice guy.

Within the club, he played regularly, mostly for the B team and would willingly turn out for the A, or C, teams when requested. His games were always interesting for the spectators and were packed with dangerous tactics and interesting ideas.

Alex won the club’s U130 tournament in 2012 and again in 2017. He also won the Ruth Rose cup, a Portsmouth League Trophy for veterans scoring the highest percentage in their league games.

Alex particularly enjoyed the Christmas season when his amazing likeness to the great man himself generated much bon humour among children who met him in his supermarket job. He was his usual jovial self to the end, brightening the day for all those around him.

Alex’s family donated his considerable collection of chess books to the club and we are grateful for this generous gesture.

**Steve Smith,  
chairman, Chichester Chess Club**

## OBITUARIES

**T**HE game here illustrates well the combative dogged style that Ray Williams displayed.

Drawing upon his massive experience he displayed defensive resistance and good technique to earn a hard fought draw.

As a footnote, this dropped half-point was to cost me the Club Championship in 2010 with Andrew McDougall winning the title and heralding the arrival of the new younger generation.

*'A sharp combination prevents the need for any long ending'*

Event: CCC Champions		Date: 2010	
White: S.J. Smith		Grade:	
Black: R.T. Williams		Grade:	
Opening:			
1	d4.	d5	26 3c/0. + 24/60.
2	e3	Nf6.	27 bc. Bxc5.
3	Bd3	c5.	28 Rad1. Bxc3.
4	c3	Nc6	29 Rad5. Bxc1.
5	f4.	Bg4	30 Rcd1. Kxe3.
6	Nf3.	e6.	31 Rcd1. Ra2+
7	b3	Bb5	32 Rfd2. Kfd2+
8	00	Bxc5.	33 Rxd2. Kf8(=)
9	g4.	Bg5	34 1/2 1/2
10	Nes.	Nex	35
11	Bxc4.	Bxc4	36
12	Nd2.	Qh4.	37
13	Kh1	Qe7.	38
14	Nxe4	dxe4	39
15	Nxb6.	bxc6	40
16	Qd4.	Qd7.	41
17	dc.	Bxc5.	42
18	Qxe4	Qd5.	43
19	Qxd5	axd5	44
20	b4	Bb1.	45
21	Bb2.	00	46
22	Ka1.	Rfe8.	47
23	Bc1.	a5.	48
24	a3.	ab.	49
25	cb.	c5.	50



**T**HE game I have chosen to best illustrate the imaginative style of Alex Miller (pictured left) has a finish fitting for any Victorian coffee house.

A sharp combination prevents the need for any long ending.

Against stronger opposition it is worth noting that his counter-attacking preference enabled several noteworthy victories in the Club Championship, often with the black pieces.

With an affable, relaxed approach, it was easy to underestimate Alex as a chess player of genuine capability.

He scored many wins against league opposition wrong-footed by his genality.

**Alex Miller v Les Stubbington  
CCC Handicap January  
28, 2019, Opening:  
Albin Gambit**

- |          |              |              |                                                |
|----------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. d4 d5 | 3. dxe5 d4   | 11. Kxg2 Nh6 | 19. Kh1 Rad8                                   |
| 2. c4 e5 | 4. Nf3 Nc6   | 12. Ne4 b6   | 20. d5 Nb8                                     |
|          | 5. g3 Be6    | 13. a3 Be7   | 21. Rfe1 Rfe8                                  |
|          | 6. b3 Bb4+   | 14. b4 Nf5   | 22. Nd4 c5                                     |
|          | 7. Nbd2 Qd7  | 15. Qc2 O-O  | 23. Nxf5! Resigns                              |
|          | 8. Bb2 Bg4   | 16. Rad1 a6  | 24. If ... Qxf5 then<br>Nf6+ wins the<br>Queen |
|          | 9. Bg2 Bh3   | 17. e3 Qe6   |                                                |
|          | 10. O-O Bxg2 | 18. exd4 Qg6 |                                                |

## DOWN MEMORY LANE



**Sussex I B.C.F. Minor Counties Champions 1982-83**  
 Standing (lt. to rt.): John Nicholson, Feliks Kwiatkowski, Stephen Hawes, James Rutherford, Paul Fallon, John Hawkesworth, John Cannon, David Graham, Bernard Scott, Douglas Shalleross, Brian Denman and Robert Elliston. Seated (lt to rt): Robert Williams, Geoffrey James, Gary Kenworthy (captain), Stuart Conquest, Julian Simpola and Ray Williams.  
 Also played (4 or more games): Tony Bamford, Steve Bonifacio, Chris Cropp and Dean Hopson.



**Sussex I B.C.F. Minor Counties Champions 1986-87 (photo 3/10/88)**  
 Standing lt. to rt.: Brian Denman, Jim Graham, Feliks Kwiatkowski, Ian Kelly, Adrian Lewis, Mike Nicholas, Geoffrey James, Stephen Hawes, Steve Newman, Arthur Hall  
 Seated: Paul Watson, Gary Kenworthy, Ron Nicholas, John Cannon, Julian Simpola, Paul Selby. Absent: John Henshaw, Bob Elliston, Graham Rivers, Mike Scott  
 Also played: (4 games or more): Andrew Kinsman, John Dodgson, David Graham, Paul New.

# Lasting long in the memory: That was the year that was

Julie Denning gives her final SCCU and ECF delegate's report

**W**HAT might otherwise have been a very routine season was turned on its head in early 2020 by the covid-19 pandemic.

Overnight, over the board (OTB) chess essentially ceased, with still no certainty over when it will be able to return. Nervousness over health risks, especially for older players, may linger for some time.

Restrictions on gatherings have had an inevitable impact on the activities of the SCCU and ECF. The ECF Board has not met face-to-face since January. Its articles of association require a finance council meeting to be held each April. This presented the ECF with a dilemma. The meeting planned for April 25 clearly couldn't go ahead in its traditional sense. There was also a shortage of time to assess the impact of the lockdown on chess activities overall and on budget planning. Subsequently, Parliament passed legislation to permit companies faced with this situation to be able to hold virtual meetings online, and this is what the ECF elected to do. A delayed finance council was held online on July 18 under the capable stewardship of incoming council chairman Michael Farthing.

In a strange way, the lockdown might appear to have benefited ECF finances as the estimate is that the federation will break even over the year until August 31, 2020, as opposed to a budgeted deficit of around £12.5k. Sadly, of course, this has been due to the decimation of events since March, rather than improved income.

The ECF closed its office in Battle with staff working from home, and was able to

take advantage of Government financial support schemes. The British Championships were among many congresses that have had to be cancelled this year.

A major fear for the ECF is that with OTB chess suspended, many players might delay renewing their membership, or not renew at all for 2020/21. The director of membership came up with various scenarios regarding potential levels of renewal and the director of finance produced a budget accordingly, but acknowledging that this has a high degree of uncertainty until the membership renewal situation becomes clearer.

In recognition of the financial hardship many will be experiencing and the drastic cutback of activities, the previously proposed increases in membership fees were withdrawn, and rates will remain the same as for 2019/20. Council approved the budget, along with a motion to give the Board discretion to make amendments that might become necessary as the membership income situation becomes clearer.

With regard to renewing your ECF membership, I would hope most will do so. As the director of finance put it to the finance council, the ECF is like your corner shop; if you don't use it, you'll find it's no longer there come the day you need it. The federation has a certain level of fixed costs below which it really couldn't continue to function in anything like its current form. As an incentive to early renewal, Chess & Bridge (aka, Malcolm Pein, director of international chess) is offering generous

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## DELEGATE'S REPORT

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discounts on purchases to anyone who renews their ECF membership by September 13. Essentially, you are offered a discount equivalent to your membership fee on purchases over roughly double the membership fee. Details are available at <https://www.chess.co.uk/ecf-members/>

One beneficiary of the lockdown has been an explosion in online chess, with events being organised at club, national and international levels and hosted on various well-known chess websites. The ECF has initiated online ratings for its events which are updated monthly. They remain entirely separate from OTB grades. To participate in an ECF event it is necessary to be an ECF member, but this need not be anything beyond the recently introduced supporter category. Consequently, this category of membership has increased substantially and a hope is that once OTB resumes, at least some of these new players will become bronze, or higher, category members.

Online chess is an area where we're all learning as we go along. A particularly difficult concern has been the vulnerability to cheating. The various websites have quite sophisticated systems in place to detect suspected cheating and will close personal accounts where this is found. Event organisers, such as the ECF or 4NCL have no say over this and there have been situations where someone has been labelled a cheat by a website and has great difficulty proving otherwise.

The saga of the ECF chess library is one we in Sussex are very familiar with. It is taking another twist. It is intended to be relocated to a university in the near future. (I'm aware of this through being on the ECF Board, but I don't believe it's in the public domain at the time of



*'One beneficiary of the lockdown has been an explosion in online chess'*

writing, so all I can say is that it's somewhere rather more central in England than Sussex.)

A consequence is that the ECF will no longer need as much office space and it is therefore planning on relinquishing the office suite it took over three years ago. A decision is awaited on whether to seek a smaller office or move to home working on a permanent basis.

The SCCU and its events have been similarly impacted by lockdown restrictions. With the delay in the ECF finance council, the SCCU executive committee meeting that would have been expected to take place in April did not occur. Instead, a shortened meeting was held online, together with the SCCU annual meeting, on July 11. The latter stages of the county championships could not take place. However, national online events have been introduced to be competed by county teams.

Although ultimately under the control of the ECF director of home chess, the driving force behind this is very much Mark Murrell, the current SCCU president, in his role as ECF county championship controller. At this stage, it's not possible to say how or when SCCU OTB events might resume.

Finally, it has been my pleasure and privilege to be your delegate to the SCCU and the ECF Council for the past few years, but the time has come for me to move on. I'm delighted that a very capable replacement has come forward in the form of Peter Farr. I wish Peter every success in these roles and hope that county players will give him their support. In particular, when normality returns, it would be great to see Sussex resuming a rather greater level of participation in SCCU events. However, this won't happen without the help of others, especially volunteers, to become captains of county teams.

It's all change, as grading officer Julie Denning explains

# Number's up for grading system, now it's monthly

**T**HE 2019/20 season has been routine for grading, albeit with rather fewer results during the second half due to the abandonment of over the board chess since late March.

I was pleased that a number of clubs responded to my proposal that they adopt the ECF's League Management System (LMS). Despite the "league" title, it can be utilised for club tournaments, and can be linked into a club website.

The big advantage for the local grader is that a results file in the format required by the ECF is readily generated with just a few keystrokes.

For the coming season, all changes. The ECF's three-digit grading system, commonly also referred to as the Clarke system after its founder, has been in use for more than 60 years and is unique among national and international systems.

It is being discontinued following the summer 2020 grading list and being replaced by a four-digit ELO-style system more typical of other systems used around the world and already familiar to online players or those with FIDE ratings.

Also, updates will be published monthly from August, 2020. Late submissions will be accepted and taken into account for grading calculations going forward, but my

understanding is that already published grading lists will not be amended retrospectively.

It is therefore important that results submissions are made promptly if the monthly grading lists are to be as accurate as possible.

The other change is that after 15 years in this role, I'm standing down as Sussex grader, handing the baton to the very capable hands of David Fryer, from Crowborough.

I trust all involved will give David the assistance you have given me over this time.



# SCCA Patrons

## 2020-2021

PLEASE help the work of the association by renewing your subscription for 2020-21. If you have not been a patron, please consider taking out a subscription. Patrons are exempt from board fees in county matches.

County fees: Adults £15 (ECF members)/£25 (non-ECF members) and Juniors (U-18) £9.

Please complete the form below and return to the treasurer: Jim Wheeler, 12 High Wickham, Hastings, East Sussex TN35 5PB.

Alternatively, you can pay direct into the SCCA's Nationwide account: Sort code: 07-00-93; Account number: 33333334. Any payment will need to quote the following reference or the payment will not reach the SCCA: 0302/703954391. For anyone paying direct, could they please email me a confirmation. Thank you in anticipation of your support for Sussex chess.

**Jim Wheeler, treasurer, [james.wheeler9@btinternet.com](mailto:james.wheeler9@btinternet.com)**

To SCCA treasurer Jim Wheeler

From: Name (Block capitals).....

Address.....

.....

I enclose my Patron's fee for 2020-21 of £.....

Signature.....

Email address (for confirmation of receipt) .....

Cheques should be payable to "Sussex County Chess Association".

Receipts will be issued by email or by post on receipt of a SAE

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\* Robert Elliston is stepping down from all his roles - to be filled at AGM

\*\* Awaiting AGM confirmation